

FILED

July 8 2008

*Ed Smith*  
CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT  
STATE OF MONTANA

**WILLIAM G. GREGG**

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July 7, 2008

JUL 08 2008

*Ed Smith*  
CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT  
STATE OF MONTANA

Montana Supreme Court  
Box 203003  
Helena, MT 59620-3003

Re: Proposed 2008 Montana Code of Judicial Conduct

Dear Honorable Justices:

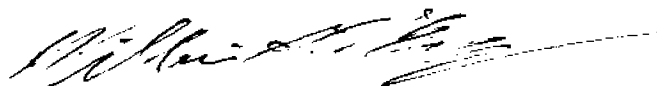
I am writing in regard to Proposed 2008 Montana Code of Judicial Conduct Rule 3.10, which proposes that "A full time Judge shall not practice law". If my understanding is correct this proposed rule applies to Justices of the Peace as well as District Court Judges.

The caseloads handled by the Justice of the Peace are now sizeable and with enough legal complexity that there are obvious benefits in the Justice having a Law degree. However, in our community and no doubt many others, the salary for the Justice of the Peace is quite modest and they must supplement their income by providing private legal assistance. If the proposed rule goes forward I suspect many Justices of the Peace with law degrees will find it necessary to resign and go into private practice. I feel this would be detrimental to the Judicial process.

If the final Commission proposal includes Rule 3.10 I urge the Court not to adopt it.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



William G. Gregg